

U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP03/12668

Amendments to the Abstract:

ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract that appears on page 18 of the specification with the following revised abstract which is submitted on a separate sheet.

Abstract

~~The invention relates to a~~ A method for monitoring a reference half cell [(3)], ~~wherein the reference half cell (3) which~~ forms with a measuring half cell [(2)] a potentiometric measuring point [(1)] for determining and/or monitoring an ion concentration of a medium [(7)] ~~and wherein the~~ The ion concentration of the medium [(7)]s determined on the basis of at least one measurement signal determined in a measuring circuit, between the measuring half cell [(2)] and the reference half cell [(3)]. According to the invention, the measuring point [(1)] is operated intermittently in an operating mode and in a test mode, wherein, in the operating mode, the ion concentration is measured and wherein, in the test mode, the proper functioning of the reference half cell [(3)] is checked.

(Fig.3)